

Library of
Michigan
Library of
Michigan
Foundation

2006 Annual Report

A Message from the State Librarian and Library of Michigan Foundation President

Dear friends,

We're pleased to offer you a brief look at the year 2006 for the Library of Michigan and the Library of Michigan Foundation. It was a full and accomplished year, marked with excellent programming, expansion of services and collections for the public, and vigorous planning for the library community as a whole.

To everyone who has consistently shown sustained interest in and support for the Library of Michigan and our Foundation, we thank you. Support takes many shapes: a donated book; a volunteer's time to assist with a special project; the always-critical financial backing that helps make our programs and services possible; or the constructive criticism that keeps us moving down the road toward ever stronger customer service.

As Michigan works to redefine itself and its economy, the Library of Michigan and libraries throughout the state find themselves working to serve more patrons with increasingly fewer resources. Although 2006 was no exception, we are proud to note that the Library of Michigan, with solid Foundation support and professional, enthusiastic staff, continued its march to bring the best in information resources to the broadest Michigan audience.

We invite you to review our 2006 annual report to see what we've achieved and where we're headed. It's going to be a most worthwhile journey.

Sincerely,



Nancy R. Robertson
State Librarian



Robert T. Wilson
President, Library of Michigan Foundation



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A Year of Community Enrichment, Library Enhancement and Top-Shelf Service

Every year, the Library of Michigan sets out to accomplish more, to make library service more accessible for millions of Michigan residents, and to keep pace with the constantly changing needs of the day's information seekers. The year 2006 was no different. Despite a rough economy and fierce competition for state resources, the Library of Michigan successfully made its case for why a state library and all libraries are critical to communities' social, intellectual, educational and economic well-being. The following are just a few examples of year 2006 successes:

In October 2005, then-acting State Librarian Nancy Robertson announced the launch of the Library of Michigan's second quality measures project, the Quality Service Audit Checklist (QSAC) for library cooperatives. Developed over two years by a group of library professionals representing library cooperatives and various types and sizes of public libraries, this series of benchmarks provide a framework by which cooperatives can evaluate their current levels of service and strive for excellent, equitable library service.

Following on the heels of the first QSAC project for public libraries, the Library of Michigan sought to give library cooperatives the same kind of assessment tool and was, in fact, one of the first states to extend quality measures to cooperatives. The quality measures for library cooperatives are divided into five areas (administration, governance, services, technology and advocacy) and offer three tiers of standards (essential, enhanced and excellent).

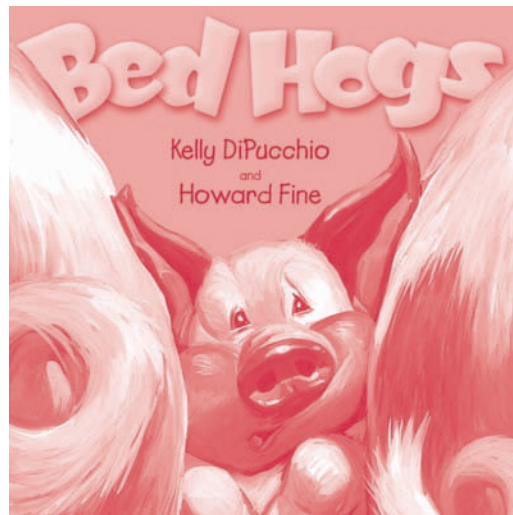
January saw the announcement of the 2006 Michigan Notable Books, honoring many of the best books written about the Great Lakes region or by a Michigan author. In May, over a dozen Michigan Notable Books authors took to the road for a tour of public readings and events at more than 50 libraries throughout the state.

Families gathered at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library in early March to kick off Michigan Reads!, the Library of Michigan's one-state, one-children's-book program devoted to boosting early childhood literacy. The event – which featured Michigan author Kelly DiPucchio reading her book “Bed Hogs,” the 2006 Michigan Reads! featured title – launched a month of Michigan Reads! activities in public libraries,

preschools, homes and Head Start programs across the state. To support those activities, the Library of Michigan, in cooperation with the program's sponsors, provided every Michigan public library and Head Start program with a copy of “Bed Hogs” and related materials to use in their Michigan Reads! programming.

In April, the Library of Michigan hosted a free genealogy seminar dedicated to online research and enjoyed a large turnout of more than 200 attendees, including many new faces.

On a Sunday afternoon in May, librarians and library supporters gathered in Detroit for the second annual Michigan Public Libraries Day at Comerica Park to see the Detroit Tigers play the Cincinnati Reds. The Detroit Tigers – with support from Ernie Harwell and Alan Trammell – generously donated back to the Library of Michigan Foundation \$9 of every \$20 seat sold. Just over \$7,000 was raised that afternoon as part of the “Ernie and Tram Go to Bat for Michigan Public Libraries” campaign. A few months later the Foundation awarded \$1,050 in matching funds to libraries in Glennie, Newaygo, Shelby, St. Ignace, St. Johns, Stevensville and Wayne to create or expand their own endowment fund within a private or community foundation.



*The 2006
Michigan Reads!
featured title*

Library Enhancement and Top-Shelf Service

The 2006 Abrams Genealogy Seminar in July drew more than 115 attendees, some of whom traveled from as far as Minnesota, New York, Oklahoma, Virginia and Wisconsin. Genealogy experts from libraries across the region introduced family history researchers to their unique historical collections, and participants learned how to more effectively use the diverse resources that make the Library of Michigan one of the top 10 genealogy collections in the nation. Among the high points of the seminar, keynote speaker Curt Witcher of the Allen County Public Library both outlined the impact of technology on family history research and stressed what we as researchers can do to ensure the future of our past.

In September, the Library of Michigan made available a new collection of Michigan vital records – an indispensable tool for family history research – on microfilm. Michigan Death Records, 1897-1920, were previously accessible only through a request to the Michigan Vital Records Office for a search fee of at least \$26. Researchers may now search the microfilmed records for free and get copies at a fraction of the cost – 20 cents per photocopy. Increasing access to vital records on microfilm, one of the most heavily used genealogy resources, benefits family history researchers across the state and helps draw visitors (many from out of state) who come to use the Library's extensive collection. The Library of Michigan is able to provide this resource, and additional records collections to be made available in the future, thanks to a donation from the Michigan Genealogical Council. Legislation sponsored by Library of Michigan board member Sen. Tom George allows for the transfer of certain vital records from the state registrar to the Library of Michigan, enabling public access and facilitating genealogical research.



The 2006 Abrams Genealogy Seminar

10 Things You Should Know About the Library of Michigan!

- 1) The Library of Michigan, founded 1828, promotes, advocates and consistently works to achieve the highest level of library service to the State of Michigan, its government, its libraries and its residents.
- 2) Interested in family-history research? Start your exploration at the Abrams Genealogy Collection, among the country's top 10! Learn more at <http://www.michigan.gov/familyhistory>.
- 3) The Library of Michigan's Quality Services Audit Checklist (QSAC) provides quality benchmarks by which libraries can assess and improve patrons' experiences. Learn about your area's QSAC-accredited libraries at <http://www.michigan.gov/qsac>.
- 4) Great Lakes literary heritage and early childhood literacy are key Library of Michigan priorities. Learn about Michigan Notable Books at <http://www.michigan.gov/notablebooks> and Michigan Reads! at <http://www.michigan.gov/michiganreads>.
- 5) Michigan and federal documents, rare books, maps, a robust Michigan-themed section; no matter what you're seeking, chances are it's in the Library's many collections!
- 6) The Library's Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped makes it possible for people who cannot use standard print material due to visual and physical handicaps to enjoy best-sellers, mysteries, biographies and more. Visit <http://www.michigan.gov/sbph>.
- 7) The Law Library at the Library of Michigan provides legal reference service and allows customers to search the statutes, cases and administrative regulations of all 50 states and the federal system. Begin your legal research at <http://www.michigan.gov/lawlibrary>.
- 8) The Michigan eLibrary is your 24-hour, seven-day-a-week library, giving information seekers what they need, when they need it. Get to know MeL today at <http://mel.org!>
- 9) Grant opportunities make it possible for the Library of Michigan to expand services to libraries and the public (<http://www.michigan.gov/lsta>) and for the Michigan Center for the book (<http://www.michigan.gov/mcfb>) to promote books, reading, literacy and authors.
- 10) The Library of Michigan belongs to the people of Michigan! See how you can help sustain the Library of Michigan's future at <http://www.michigan.gov/lmfoundation>.

Michigan eLibrary – Homegrown Technology, National Honors

The Michigan eLibrary (MeL, at <http://mel.org>) has evolved over many years from a number of statewide initiatives into a technologically innovative and information-rich resource that is available at no charge to libraries and the public statewide.

The Library of Michigan invested roughly \$3.6 million in MeL during 2006, to make MeL resources available to libraries and residents statewide. That might sound like a lot of money until you consider if every library in the state were to offer the same set of core resources found in MeL, the collective price tag would come close to \$200 million.

First unveiled to the public with 24-hour remote access (using a Michigan state ID card or driver's license) in the summer of 2002, the Michigan eLibrary now boasts a number of compelling information tools:

MeL Internet, a collection of librarian-recommended resources arranged by subject with special emphasis on Michigan information, including employment and economic development;

MeL Databases, more than 50 subscription-only databases containing full-text magazine and newspaper articles; e-books, encyclopedias and more;



MeL Catalog (MeLCat), a statewide catalog of millions of unique titles (books, books on tape and CD, books in large print, DVDs, magazines, music and more) available for speedy local delivery from a growing number of participating libraries;

Tutorials and practice exams for standardized tests like the ACT, SAT and GED, online skills-improvement courses, and many career exams;

Business resources to help residents find jobs or start new ventures; and

Health information about medical conditions, treatments and alternative medicine.

In August 2006, the Michigan eLibrary earned a Digital Government Achievement Award from the California-based Center for Digital Government. MeL.org earned top ranking in the "government-to-citizen" category as part of the Center's annual "Best of the Web" and Digital Government Achievement Awards competition. "Our 2006 awards showcase the best state and local government Web sites and on-line applications in the nation," said Cathilea Robinett, executive director of the Center for Digital Government. "These winners set the mark for delivering innovative, efficient and effective government services to all of their many constituencies."

Funding for MeL is provided through the federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) via the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and administered by the Library of Michigan.



The Library of Michigan is part of the Department of History, Arts and Libraries. Dedicated to enriching quality of life and strengthening the economy by providing access to information, preserving and promoting Michigan's heritage and fostering cultural creativity, the department also includes the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, the Michigan Film Office and the Michigan Historical Center.

For more information about this publication, contact Public Services at (517) 373-1300, TDD: (517) 373-1592 or the Michigan Relay Center: 1 (800) 649-3777 or email librarian@michigan.gov.

In accordance with Michigan Law and ADA requirements, an alternate format of this printed material may be obtained by contacting (517) 373-5614.

Paid for by the Library of Michigan Foundation.

Library of Michigan

Building a Foundation for the Future

In its 22-year history, the Library of Michigan Foundation has secured more than \$4 million to provide support to vital Library of Michigan programs and services. This includes over \$850,000 raised in private funds for the construction of the Martha W. Griffiths Michigan Rare Book Room (inaugurated in the fall of 2003), \$400,000 to support youth literacy and literary programs for people of all ages, and more than \$2 million to develop the Library's genealogical collection,. This collection attracts researchers and visitors not only from throughout the Great Lakes region, but also from across the country.

In 2006, the Foundation served as fiscal agent for a \$2,044,792 grant awarded to the Library of Michigan by the Gates Foundation. The grant will be fully distributed within two years to Michigan libraries for the upgrade of public-access computers.

Generous donor support allowed the Library of Michigan Foundation to make grants to the following Library of Michigan collections and programs during fiscal year 2006:

Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped: Among the most circulated materials in the collection are described videos (feature films, television programs, educational programming and more), which provide descriptive narration of key visual elements as they occur on the screen. Hundreds of new titles were added to the SBPH collection this year. The Foundation, in partnership with the Lions Club District 11 C2, also sponsored the second annual "Vision Disability Awareness Day" at the Library of Michigan in September. Designed to educate mid-Michigan's children and their families about vision disabilities, the program attracted Boys & Girls Scouts troops in the area, many of who had an opportunity to earn a Disability Awareness patch. The big 'hit' that afternoon? Leader dogs in training!

Rare Book Collection: Several unusual and interesting titles and materials were added to the collection, including: Interior U.S. Globe Gore map of the southern United States, Great Lakes, and Hudson Bay (1688) showing native American lands and forts pictorially; a full-color plate of War Dance of the Sauks and Foxes complete vol. 1 of McKenney's History of the Indian Tribes of North America (1838-1844); a first issue of "The Spero" – a magazine containing alternative poetry published in Flint, Mich.; and medical titles written by Michigan residents, including: "The Modern Treatment of Headaches" (1888) and "The New Philosophy of Being and Existence" (1883).

Abrams Genealogy Collection: Materials and microfilm additions included Michigan Death Records, 1897-1920 (1.4 million certificates); City Directories, 1902-1960, for Michigan Cities including some Detroit areas; Wisconsin State Censuses; Manifest of Passengers Arriving in the St. Albans, VT District through Canadian Pacific and Atlantic Ports, 1895-1954; Index to Naturalization Petitions for the United States District and Circuit Courts, Northern District of Illinois and Immigration and Naturalization Service District 9, 1840-1950; Index Cards to Naturalization Petitions for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, Cleveland, 1855-1967; and 1906-Special Census of the Northwest Provinces and Halifax 1881-1922 Passenger Lists.

Mahoney Children's Workshops: These workshops are intended to provide convenient, low-cost professional development experiences for Michigan youth librarians in regions where such opportunities are not readily available. The September 2006 workshops were held at the Peter White Public Library in Marquette and the Chippewa River District Library in Mt. Pleasant. Featured guest Gari Stein, an early childhood educator, instructed workshop attendees on creating a rich musical environment in their schools and libraries.

Authors Dean Bakopolous ("Please Don't Come Back from the Moon") and Steve Amick ("The Lake, the River & the Other Lake") talk to book lovers at April's "A Night for Notables" at the Library of Michigan, celebrating the 2006 Michigan Notable Books.



Michigan Foundation

Michigan Reads! & Michigan Notable Books: The Foundation continues to be a strong advocate for Michigan literary and literacy activities, proudly supporting the Michigan Reads! one-state, one-children's-book and the Michigan Notable Books programs. Additionally, the Foundation secured additional support for Michigan Reads! (Brogan & Partners, Michigan Education Savings Plan and Michigan Education Trust). Michigan Notable Books enjoyed the support of Cooley Law School, ProQuest, the Michigan Humanities Council, LaSalle Bank, National Endowment for the Humanities, Michigan Center for the Book, Schuler Books & Music and media partner Lansing State Journal.

“A Night for Notables”: In early May, the Library of Michigan Foundation hosted the third annual “Night for Notables” in honor of the 2006 Michigan Notable authors. Guests gathered at the Library of Michigan to meet and mingle with the 20 authors whose outstanding fiction and non-fiction Michigan-themed titles were selected as Michigan Notable Books. Keynote speaker, National Book Award Winner Kevin Boyle, author of “Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age,” a 2005 Michigan Notable title, left the audience stirred by his inspiring presentation.

State Librarian's Excellence Award: Every year, the Foundation recognizes the innovative work done by libraries of all sizes statewide, showcasing one that exemplifies excellence in customer service. This prestigious honor gives a \$5,000 cash award, sponsored by Southfield-based Hantz Group. In 2006, the Foundation welcomed a new sponsor, Edward Surovell Realtors, who funded two \$1,000 cash awards to libraries that earned Citations of Excellence. The 2006 winner (out of 23 libraries) was Washtenaw County Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled, with Citations of Excellence going to Spring Lake District Library and White Pigeon Township Library.

Genealogy Appreciation Day: During Family History Month in October, the Library of Michigan and the Foundation hosted a special event to thank Michigan's genealogy community for its support of the Library's programs and services. At a special reception in October 2005, Barbara Brown was presented with the Library of Michigan's 2005 Genealogy Appreciation Award. Since becoming interested in her own family history in 1979, Mrs. Brown gained a sense of the importance of making materials available for all Michigan residents interested in genealogy. For over 20 years, Mrs. Brown has served as president of her family's foundation, the Talbert and Leota Abrams Foundation, which has generously given more than \$2 million in support of the Library of Michigan's genealogy collections and programs and contributed the funds for Ancestry.com when it was first added to the MeL databases. She has also made significant material contributions to the field of genealogy, as a published author ("Descendants of Christian Geiger the Immigrant, 1700-1779: A Continuing Family History") with a great deal of hands-on experience in family history research.

Barbara Brown, 2005 Genealogy Appreciation Award winner, and Randy Riley, Library of Michigan special collections manager



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Library of Michigan Foundation

Statement of Activities for the Year Ended Sept. 30, 2006

	Temporarily Unrestricted	Permanently Restricted	Restricted	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Contributions	\$35,426	\$2,296,467	\$47,406	\$2,379,299
In-kind Contributions	89,640	-	-	89,640
Workshops	4,425	-	-	4,425
Investment Income	109,547	98,947	146	208,640
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	210,408	(210,408)	-	-
Total Support and Revenue	\$449,446	\$2,185,006	\$47,552	\$2,682,004
GRANTS AND EXPENSES				
Grants to the Library of Michigan	212,430	-	-	212,430
Supporting Services				
Administrative and General (including in-kind expenses of \$89,640)	139,695	-	-	139,695
Fund-raising	69,373	-	-	69,373
Total Expenses	\$421,498	-	-	\$421,498
Change In Net Assets	27,948	2,185,006	47,552	2,260,506
NET ASSETS				
Beginning Net Assets	300,449	1,190,721	581,692	2,072,862
Ending Net Assets	\$328,397	\$3,375,727	\$629,244	\$4,333,368

Library of Michigan

Service Statistics for Year Ended Sept. 30, 2006

Requests/Transactions

Circulation/Directional Requests*	24,943
Reference/Research Requests*	33,869
Interlibrary Loan Requests*	12,276
Number of Main/Law Items Circulated	14,341
(*includes phone, e-mail and walk-in inquiries)	

Transactions by Patron Group

General Public	57,266
Libraries	12,410
State Government Agencies	4,781

Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Circulation	241,791
Interlibrary Loan	6,509
Reference/Reader Advisory Requests	9,794

Michigan eLibrary (<http://mel.org>)

MeL Internet	
Individual User Sessions	1,564,736
Content Searches	933,252
MeL Databases	
Total Information Searches	46,022,002
Total Information Retrievals	10,371,891
MeLCat	
Fulfillments	184,781

Our Donors

The Library of Michigan Foundation gratefully acknowledges its loyal donors who through their financial support provided funding for many special projects at the Library of Michigan in fiscal year 2006. This list includes donors whose financial gifts were received between Oct. 1, 2005 and Sept. 30, 2006. A heartfelt thanks goes to all!

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